

## *North Palos Elementary Schools*

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### **Frequently Asked Questions About Homework**

***What is the Board Policy on Homework?  
(Policy - 6:290)***

Homework is a necessary part of the District's instructional program and has the overarching goal of increasing student achievement. Homework is assigned to further a student's educational development and is an application or adaptation of a classroom experience. The Superintendent shall provide guidance to ensure that homework:

1. Is used to reinforce and apply previously covered concepts, principles, and skills;
2. Is not assigned for disciplinary purposes;
3. Serves as a communication link between the school and parents/guardians;
4. Encourages independent thought, self-direction, and self-discipline; and
5. Is of appropriate frequency and length, and does not become excessive, according to the teacher's best professional judgment.

Recognizing the importance of parental involvement in homework the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that parents/guardians are informed of whom to contact with questions or concerns about homework assignments and methods to facilitate homework completion.

***How much homework could I expect each night?***

Kindergarten	10-15 minutes
First and Second Grade	10-20 minutes
Third Grade	30 minutes
Fourth Grade	40 minutes
Fifth Grade	50 minutes
Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Grade	50 - 90 minutes

### ***What does homework look like at grades K-1?***

At the primary level homework may consist of the following:

- Math review, practice or games
- Word work/phonics practice
- Nightly reading

### ***What does homework look like at grades 2-5?***

In grades 2-5 homework may consist of the following:

- Fact fluency practice
- Math review of previously learned skills
- Word work
- Science and Social Studies projects
- Nightly reading

### ***What does homework look like at grades 6-8?***

Students may receive homework from each class nightly. Homework assignments are designed to further knowledge and application of skills taught in class. Graded homework does count for 10-15% of a student's overall grade. Each team of teachers assigns homework that will take between 50 - 90 minutes to complete each night.

### ***How else can I help my child at home with math?***

- Subscribe to Upraised Learning for students in grades K-5 to learn more about each quarter's math standards at <http://www.upraised.org/schools/npd117>
- IXL at [www.ixl.com](http://www.ixl.com) is a website that provides grade level practice of math skills aligned to the Common Core Standards.
- Dreambox Learning is a website that provides math lessons, activities and games for students.
- Apps for math:  
<http://www.hendersoncountypublicschoolsnc.org/instructional-technology/files/2013/03/Common-Core-Standard-App-Resources.pdf>

***How else can I help my child at home with reading?***

- Starfall.com is a website designed to assist K-1 students with early reading skills.
- <http://www.reading-tutors.com/> is a website with ready to go lesson plans for parents or tutors to use with students in grades K-8.
- K-2 parents can help the students with high frequency words.
- Apps for reading:  
<http://www.hendersoncountypublicschoolsnc.org/instructional-technology/files/2013/03/Common-Core-Standard-App-Resources.pdf>